

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 /073 W  
-----118001 092002Z /40

R 090715Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5460  
INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN  
AMCONSUL SURABAYA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 16533

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, ID  
SUBJECT: THE STUDENTS REMAIN RESTLESS

REF: (A) JAKARTA A-101, AUGUST 11, 1977, (B) JAKARTA 12826,  
(C) JAKARTA 15288

1. SUMMARY. GENERALLY ORDERLY ANTI-GOVERNMENT STUDENT ACTIVITIES CONTINUE IN JAVA'S MAJOR CITIES. DEMONSTRATING STUDENTS IN JOGJAKARTA THIS WEEK HAD A BRIEF BUT TENSE CONFRONTATION WITH LOCAL ANTI-RIOT TROOPS (FORTUNATELY WITHOUT ANY RESULTING INJURIES), WHILE A LARGE, EMOTIONAL ANTI-GOI MEETING WAS HELD IN JAKARTA. THE NEXT STUDENT "TARGET DATE" FOR DEMONSTRATIONS MAY BE MOSLEM NEW YEAR'S, DECEMBER 12, BUT THE GOVERNMENT IS TAKING STEPS TO LIMIT DEMONSTRATIONS AND MAINTAIN ORDER. END SUMMARY.

2. STUDENTS CONTINUED TO MANIFEST THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE GOVERNMENT AND TO PRESIDENT SUHARTO THROUGH GENERALLY ORDERLY PROTEST MEETINGS AND DEMONSTRATIONS DURING THE PAST TWO WEEKS. SMALL SCALE DEMONSTRATIONS WERE STAGED IN BANDUNG AND SURABAYA, WITH LARGER GATHERINGS IN JOGJAKARTA AND JAKARTA.

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3. THE TENSEST MOMENTS RATHER SURPRISINGLY OCCURRED IN JOGJAKARTA, WHERE THE STUDENT COMMUNITY HAD HERETOFORE BEEN RELATIVELY QUIET. ON DECEMBER 5, A CROWD OF ABOUT 1,000 STUDENTS, REPRESENTING ALL OF JOGJAKARTA'S MAJOR UNIVERSITIES, STAGED A BANNER-CARRYING PARADE THROUGH THE CITY'S BUSINESS DISTRICT, PROTESTING AGAINST FOOD SHORTAGES, CORRUPTION AND THE UNEQUAL APPLICATION OF JUSTICE. ALTHOUGH THE

PARADE DISRUPTED TRAFFIC, IT WAS VERY ORDERLY AND THE STUDENTS DISPERSED WITHOUT INCIDENT AT THE ORDER OF ON-THE-SCENE GOI RIOT TROOPS.

4. TWO DAYS LATER, HOWEVER, IN AN APPARENTLY LESS-ORGANIZED MOVE, A SMALLER GROUP OF STUDENTS MARCHED TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES COMPOUND AND DEMANDED ENTRANCE TO A SECURITY BRIEFING THEN IN PROGRESS FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. WHEN DENIED ENTRANCE BY HASTILY ASSEMBLED ANTI-RIOT FORCES AND ORDERED TO DISPERSE, THE STUDENTS REFUSED TO LEAVE THE COMPOUND. AFTER SEVERAL WARNINGS, A SHOUTING AND SHOVING MATCH ENSUED AND THE STUDENTS WERE FINALLY EJECTED, WITHOUT INJURY OR SERIOUS DAMAGE TO THE COMPOUND. A FEW OF THE DEMONSTRATORS MANAGED TO MAKE THEIR WAY TO THE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT (DPRD) BUILDING AND WERE RECEIVED BY THE DPRD LEADERSHIP, TO WHOM THEY PRESENTED A LONG SERIES OF COMPLAINTS, MANY AIMED AT PRESIDENT SUHARTO.

5. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE JOGJA SECURITY CHIEF PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO TAKE "WHATEVER STEPS ARE NECESSARY" TO PREVENT A REPETITION OF THE "ILLEGAL METHODS" OF THE DEMONSTRATORS. HE ALSO CHARGED THAT STUDENT UNREST WAS BEING "FANNED BY A CERTAIN GROUP" (UNNAMED) AND CLAIMED TO HAVE PROOF THAT STUDENTS IN SURABAYA HAD BEEN PAID 29 MILLION RUPIAHS TO TAKE TO THE STREETS.

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6. MEANWHILE, ON THE SAME DAY IN JAKARTA, A LOOSELY-KNIT ANTI-GOI ORGANIZATION CALLED THE INDONESIAN YOUNG GENERATION (GMI), WHICH WAS FORMED DURING THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN TO COORDINATE PPP AND PDI YOUTH ACTIVITIES AND HAS SINCE BROADENED THE SCOPE OF ITS INTERESTS TO INCLUDE ALL KINDS OF ANTI-GOI ACTIVITIES, CONDUCTED A SIX HOUR CONCLAVE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SEVERAL DOZEN UNIVERSITIES AND SEVERAL EXTRA-CAMPUS YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS TO "EXPRESS THE SOLIDARITY OF STUDENTS AND YOUTH IN OPPOSITION TO INJUSTICE AND CORRUPTION." THE CONFAB, WHICH ATTRACTED SEVERAL HUNDRED PARTICIPANTS AND FEATURED A NUMBER OF HIGHLY-CHARGED ANTI-GOI AND ANTI-SUHARTO SPEECHES, WAS NONETHELESS ORDERLY, IN PART BECAUSE THE SPONSORS THEMSELVES PROVIDED TIGHT SECURITY. TWO GMI LEADERS TOLD US AFTERWARD THAT THE SECURITY PRECAUTIONS WERE NECESSARY TO KEEP OUT "ARMED GOI AGITATORS" WHO WERE BEING SENT TO DISRUPT THE GATHERING.

7. THE NEXT STUDENT HIGHPOINT MAY BE DECEMBER 12, MOSLEM NEW YEAR'S DAY. IN AN ATTEMPT TO HEAD OFF DEMONSTRATIONS, THE GOI HAS ANNOUNCED THAT BANNERS AND PARADES WILL BE PROHIBITED AT A LARGE MOSLEM COMMEMORATIVE RALLY TO BE HELD THAT DAY. JAKARTA SECURITY FORCES, IN

WHAT HAS BECOME THE LOCAL CUSTOM, WILL ALSO STAGE A  
"READINESS" EXERCISE (I.E., A SHOW OF FORCE) IN THE STREETS  
OF JAKARTA DECEMBER 9-10.  
MASTERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009